

SALPA EDWARDS, 1771 (PISCES): PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS IN FAVOUR OF *SALPA* FORSKÅL, 1775 TOGETHER WITH THE DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES FOR *THALIA* BLUMENBACH, 1798 (TUNICATA, THALIACEA):
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In 1756, P. Browne described some salps under the name *Thalia*, No. 1, 2 & 3, in his first edition of *The Civil and Natural History of Jamaica*, p. 384. This name being pre-Linnean is not available under the Code. I consider that the descriptions refer to salps at present known under the genus *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827. In 1789 a second edition of Browne's *Natural History of Jamaica* was published, but since this was merely a copy of the first edition, the name *Thalia* is again unavailable under Opinion 5 and *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 150.

2. In 1775, Forskål established the genus *Salpa* and described eleven species, but his name is a junior homonym of *Salpa* G. Edwards, 1771 (Pisces). No valid type-species was designated by Herdman 1891 or Metcalf 1918 (who erroneously designated *S. fusiformis* Cuvier, 1804, not originally included by Forskål). Apstein, however, 1915 (*Sitz. Ges. Nat. Freund. Berlin*, Nr. 5) in his list of *nomina conservanda*, gives *Salpa maxima* Forskål as an "example" of *Salpa*. This might be regarded as a type designation, but it is not in accord with Article 69a (iii). In case Apstein's designation is regarded as invalid, I herewith designate the same species, *Salpa maxima* Forskål, 1775, as the type-species of *Salpa* Forskål 1775.

In order to conserve the well known Tunicate name *Salpa* Forskål, 1775, it is necessary to apply for the suppression, under the plenary powers, of *Salpa* G. Edwards, 1771, in the Fishes. This name has as its type-species, by monotypy, *Salpa purpurascens variegata* G. Edwards, 1771, which is currently regarded as a synonym of *Lutianus synagris* (Linnaeus, 1758). Unless suppressed, *Salpa* G. Edwards, 1771, would replace the well known fish name *Lutianus* Bloch, 1790, as well as making the well known Tunicate name *Salpa* Forskål, 1775, a junior homonym.

In 1792 [1798] Bruguière correctly gave a new replacement name *Biphora* for *Salpa* Forskål, 1775, nec G. Edwards 1771. *Biphora* has never been accepted by Tunicate workers and is virtually a *nomen oblitum*. The suppression of *Salpa* G. Edwards, as requested, would make *Biphora* a junior synonym of *Salpa* Forskål, 1775, with the same type-species, *Salpa maxima*.

3. In 1798 the genus *Thalia* was first made available by Blumenbach who defined it and described one species, *Thalia lingulata* Blumenbach which became the type-species by monotypy. Most authors dealing with the systematics of salps place *Thalia lingulata* Blumenbach in the synonymy of the species called by some *Thalia democratica* (Forskål, 1775) and by others *Salpa democratica* Forskål, 1775. However, Blumenbach himself pointed out in a paragraph preceding his description of *Thalia* that his description included diagnostic

features of a species of Browne's genus *Thalia*. It follows that Blumenbach's description was of a *Cyclosalpa* because as stated in paragraph 1, Browne's species were *Cyclosalps*. The fact that test protrusions were not mentioned by Blumenbach probably eliminates the solitary zooid of *Thalia democratica* (Forskål, 1775) and also the aggregate zooid of *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827. Blumenbach's description best fits the solitary zooid of *Cyclosalpa pinnata* (Forskål 1775), but his plate is so poor that a definite species identification from it is impossible. Applying the Law of Priority, the generic name *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827, would be replaced by the generic name *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798, of which the type-species is, as mentioned above, *Thalia lingulata* Blumenbach, 1798. It is felt, however, that great confusion would result from a strict application of the Rules in this case, firstly because the name *Thalia* is at present used for a species of salp which is not a cyclosalp, and secondly because the name *Cyclosalpa* is widespread in the literature, forming the basis of one of the two major divisions in the family Salpidae.

In order to avoid this confusion it is considered that *Salpa democratica* Forskål, 1775, should be designated, under the plenary powers as type-species of *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798, in spite of the fact that its type by monotypy under the rules, *Thalia lingulata* Blumenbach, 1798, is probably a subjective synonym of *Salpa pinnata* Forskål, 1775.

4. Lesson, 1831, described the subgenus *Dubreuillia* based on a single species *D. cirrhosa* Lesson, 1831, which is therefore the type species by monotypy.

I consider this species to be synonymous with *Thalia democratica* (Forskål, 1775) and therefore Lesson's name will become a junior subjective synonym of *Thalia* Blumenbach if *Salpa democratica* Forskål is designated type-species of *Thalia* under the plenary powers as proposed in Paragraph 3 above.

5. Lahille, 1890, in his classification of the salps (p. 11) used *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798, for *Thalia mucronata* (Forskål, 1775). He wrote, "Le genre *Thalia* ne comprend que l'espèce *T. mucronata*." Herdman, 1891, in his monumental work on Tunicates, regarded *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798, (1810 sic) as consisting only of *Thalia democratica-mucronata* (Forsk.). This species and *Thalia mucronata* Lahille, 1890, are quoted in nearly all synonymies as being synonymous with *Thalia democratica* (Forskål 1775).

Neither Lahille's nor Herdman's *Thalia* is a distinct genus and need not be placed on the Official Index.

6. It might be considered that the confusion in the use of *Thalia* in the history of the salps is great enough to warrant rejecting it altogether from the family Salpidae, but if instead of *Thalia lingulata* Blumenbach, *Salpa democratica* Forskål is designated as type-species under the plenary powers, then *Thalia* Blumenbach could be retained in the sense of Metcalf, 1918.

Metcalf's type-species designation of *Thalia* Blumenbach as *Thalia democratica* Forskål, by the way, is invalid since this species was not originally included by Blumenbach in his genus.

Thalia Blumenbach so interpreted under the plenary powers, would be distinct from *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827, type-species *Salpa pinnata* Forskål, and would not replace it.

7. In view of the facts set out in the preceding paragraphs, I now request the International Commission:

(1) to use its plenary powers:

- (a) to suppress the generic name *Salpa* G. Edwards, 1771, for purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy;
- (b) to suppress all type-species designations for the genus *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798, prior to the present ruling and having done so to designate *Salpa democratica* Forskål, 1775, as type species of that genus;

(2) to place the following generic names on the Official List of Generic names in Zoology:

- (a) *Salpa* Forskål, 1775 (gender : feminine) type-species, by present designation in Paragraph (2) above, *Salpa maxima* Forskål, 1775;
- (b) *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798 (gender : feminine) type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(b) above, *Salpa democratica* Forskål, 1775;
- (c) *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827 (gender : feminine) type-species, by designation by Metcalf, 1918, *Salpa pinnata* Forskål, 1775;

(3) to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

- (a) *maxima* Forskål, 1775, as published in the binomen *Salpa maxima* (type-species of *Salpa* Forskål, 1775);
- (b) *democratica* Forskål, 1775, as published in the binomen *Salpa democratica* (type-species of *Thalia* Blumenbach, 1798);
- (c) *pinnata* Forskål, 1775, as published in the binomen *Salpa pinnata* (type-species of *Cyclosalpa* de Blainville, 1827);

(4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:

Salpa G. Edwards (in Catesby) 1771, suppressed under the plenary powers in (1)(a) above.

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